

COMBINED DECLARATION, POWER OF ATTORNEY AND PETITION

We, the inventors,

1. Name: Timothy J. FLYNN
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Citizenship: United States of America

2. Name: Patrick J. FLYNN
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3. Name: Kenneth A. KRITZ
Residence: Crystal Lake, Illinois
Post Office Address: 7203 Inverway
Crystal Lake, Illinois 60014
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declare that we have reviewed and understand the contents of the attached specification and claims and we verily believe that we are the original, first and joint inventors or discoverers of the invention or discovery in

ENVELOPE HAVING NESTED RINGS

described and claimed in the attached specification; that this application in part discloses and claims subject matter disclosed in our earlier filed pending applications of which we hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C., Section 120: (1) Serial No. 09/412,466, filed on 05 October 1999; (2) Serial No. 09/416,152, filed on 11 October 1999, which is a continuation-in-part patent application of Serial No. 09/412,466, filed on 05 October 1999; and (3) Serial No. 09/415,802, filed on 11 October 1999, which is a continuation-in-part patent application of Serial No. 09/412,466, filed on 05 October 1999; that as to the subject matter of this application which is common to any said earlier application(s), we do not know and do not believe that the same was ever known or used in the United States before our invention or discovery thereof; that to the best of our knowledge and belief the invention of said common subject matter has not been in public use or on sale in the United States more than one year prior to the earliest of said application(s) or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before our invention thereof or more than one year prior to the earliest of said application(s), or patented or made the subject of an inventors' certificate in any foreign country prior to the date of the earliest of said application(s) on an application filed by ourselves or our legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months prior to the earliest of said application(s) in this country; and that no application for patent or inventors'

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certificate on the invention or discovery of said common subject matter has been filed by us or our legal representatives or assigns in any country foreign to the United States, except as follows:

None

that as to the subject matter of this application which is not common to said earlier application(s), we do not know and do not believe that the same was ever known or used in the United States before our invention or discovery thereof; that to the best of our knowledge and belief the invention thereof has not been in public use or on sale in the United States more than one year prior to this application or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before our invention thereof or more than one year prior to this application, or patented or made the subject of an inventors' certificate in any foreign country prior to the date of this application on an application filed by ourselves or our legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months prior to this application in this country; that we acknowledge our duty to disclose information of which we are aware which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56(a); that, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in said earlier application(s) in the manner provided by 35 U.S.C. Section 112, first paragraph, we acknowledge our duty to disclose information that is material to examination of this application which occurred between the filing date of said earlier pending application(s) relied upon under 35 U.S.C. 120 and the filing date of this application, and that no application for patent or inventors' certificate on this invention or discovery has been filed by us or our legal representatives or assigns in any country foreign to the United States, except as follows:

None

POWER OF ATTORNEY

We hereby appoint the following attorneys to prosecute this application and transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

| | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Thomas W. Speckman | Registration No. 22,617 |
| Douglas H. Pauley | Registration No. 33,295 |
| Maxwell J. Petersen | Registration No. 32,772 |
| Charles C. Kinne | Registration No. 31,631 |
| Mark E. Fejer | Registration No. 34,817 |
| Nick C. Kottis | Registration No. 31,974 |
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| Roland W. Norris | Registration No. 32,799 |
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| Eric T. Krischke | Registration No. 42,769 |

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PETITION

Wherefore we Pray that Letters Patent be granted to us for the invention or discovery described and claimed in the attached specification and claims, and we hereby subscribe our names to the attached specification and claims, Declaration, Power of Attorney and this Petition.

DECLARATION

The undersigned further declare that all statements made herein of their knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

4-12-2000
Date



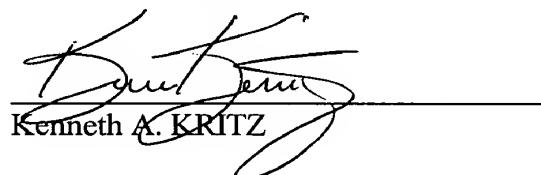
Timothy J. FLYNN

4/13/2000
Date



Patrick J. FLYNN

4/12/2000
Date



Kenneth A. KRITZ

**VERIFIED STATEMENT CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS
(37 CFR 1.9(f) & 1.27(b))-INDEPENDENT INVENTOR**

Docket Number
CD-108

Applicant or Patentee: Timothy J. FLYNN , Patrick J. FLYNN and Kenneth A. KRITZ

Serial or Patent No.: _____

Filed or Issued: _____

Title: ENVELOPE HAVING NESTED RINGS

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c), for purposes of paying reduced fees to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, with regard to the invention described in:

- the specification filed herewith with title as listed above.
- the application identified above.
- the patent identified above.

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who would not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

- no such person, concern or organization exists.
- each such person, concern or organization is listed below.

Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b)).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

Timothy J. FLYNN

NAME OF INVENTOR

Signature of Inventor

Date

Patrick J. FLYNN

NAME OF INVENTOR

Signature of Inventor

4/13/2000

Date

Kenneth A. KRITZ

NAME OF INVENTOR

Signature of Inventor

4/12/2000

Date